

# torreyana

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Sunny Rankin, Editor

NEXT DOCENT MEETING - Saturday morning, May 21, 9:00 A.M.  
PROGRAM - Steven Hutchison from San Diego Natural History Museum  
General Ecology Review - - Facts/Concepts

Ecology, by definition, embraces a grand totality--the entire pyramid of life and the chemical base beneath it. It improves rationally the old mystical perception that all things are interconnected. From this it derives a moral challenge; promote the good of the whole, even at high cost to yourself. Every day is a day of judgment, where acts of unreflecting selfishness are shown to have lethal consequences.

-PETER HEINEGG: Salvation in the Woods: Ecology as Religion, The Humanist, Sept/Oct. 1976.



## NOTES AND NEWS

### Notes from Ranger Paul Anderson

1. Improvements - things are looking better all the time. The new paint job in the museum really brightens it up. The new sales display case is a convenient asset and quite attractive, I think. No longer do we have to move a supply of books to and from the office for sales. The case provides a professional-looking display and storage for our selling stock and also free information.

My latest kick is an attempt to improve our signs, messages, exhibit labels, etc. Hand-lettering, although perhaps better than none, is not appealing to the eye or at least to mine. Three changeable letter notice boards have been acquired. The first one has been installed in the display in the west parking lot to replace the hand-printed butcher paper noting the programs offered in the Reserve. The second board will soon replace the bulletin board on the tripod that is placed in front of the museum during open hours. A third board to be mounted behind the information desk will serve as a price list of books available.

Next, I hope to acquire some pressure sensitive transfer letters (rub-on) to be used for new labeling in the museum. Any volunteers to carry out this task?

2. Book Sales Procedure - remains the same. Be sure to remove the price card from the book and place it along with the money collected in the cash box. On Sunday afternoon (perhaps while the film is running) someone

should count the money and fill out the cash worksheet. Checks should be made out to "Torrey Pines Docent Society." Complete information on sales procedures are posted in the cash box lid.

3. Four New Books have been added to our public sales: Coniferous Trees, Insects, Mammals, and Snakes. These are from the Western Outdoor Environmental Guides of which we already offered Beach Birds and Tide Pools for sale. Members of the Executive Board are currently reviewing new books as potential sales items. If you wish to suggest a book or item for public sale, notify me or Gene Barber. A list will be sent to Sacramento for approval.

4. The Interpreter's Handbook has arrived. If you signed up to purchase a copy, please do so at your earliest convenience.

5. A special thank you to those who staffed the Museum during Easter week on short notice. I am not aware of the museum being open to the public during this period in years past. This added bonus was appreciated by the park visitors, I'm sure.

6. Take a look at Principles of Interpretation. Interpretation strives to reveal the larger truths which lie behind statement of fact. In his book, Interpreting Our Heritage, Freeman Tilden uses the following definition of interpretation: "An educational activity which aims to reveal meanings and relationships .... rather than to communicate factual information."

Tilden proposes six principles of interpretation:

- I. Any interpretation that does not somehow relate what is being displayed or described to something within the personality or experience of the visitor will be sterile.
- II. Information, as such, is not interpretation. Interpretation is revelation based upon information. But they are entirely different things. However, all interpretation includes information.
- III. Interpretation is an art, which combines many arts, whether the materials presented are scientific, historical or architectural. Any art is in some degree teachable.
- IV. The chief aim of interpretation is not instruction, but provocation.
- V. Interpretation should aim to present a whole rather than a part, and must address itself to the whole man rather than any phase.
- VI. Interpretation addressed to children (say, up to the age of 12) should not be a dilution of the presentation to adults, but should follow a fundamentally different approach. To be at its best it will require a separate program.

Take a look at this book in our library.

From President Gene Barber's Desk

How are we doing? Last month's answer was, "In general, quite well." This month we might say, "Even better." For instance:

\*We now have a budget for the remainder of 1977. Based on an anticipated income, amounts have been designated for newsletter, library, museum, publications, audio-visual equipment, delegate expenses, etc.

\*Our dependability percentage (DP), based on a need of two walkers and two museum attendants per weekend day was 97 percent for April. That's a very good figure, much better than February's 75 percent and March's 57 percent.

\*It appears that we lost less than 10 percent of those who started the training class. This estimate is based on telephone inquiries to some of those whose attendance had fallen off a bit.

\*We have been able to stock various fieldbooks and related books for resale to Docents at a discount. First month's sale of these was over \$60, not including sales of The Interpreter's Handbook.

\*The new sales counter is in service, the museum has been painted, and the lodge has been fumigated. No more sawdust on the rug, we hope.

\*Our hostess did a great job of feeding 35 of us very well at April's breakfast meeting.

\*Docent officers are pursuing their tasks with imagination and enthusiasm.

Thanks to the unknown party who provided us with a vacuum cleaner. Thanks also to Steve Calder for the free-standing bookrack in the lounge and to Jean Hawthorne for assembling a box of gadgets for Interpreters. They are in the lounge, use them on your nature walks.

We have a continuing need for Torrey Pine seeds from outside the Reserve. Who can bring some in occasionally?

Summer is our most demanding season. Associates are urged to prepare as museum attendants and walk leaders. Let Bob know of your availability. Call him at 453-2422.

A Docent handbook is being prepared and, hopefully, it will be available around July 1.

Special thanks to our Editor who has contributed both effort and dollars to keep Torreyana coming over the many months when our treasury was inadequate to support its publication.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is in the process of forming a Docent Society. Anyone interested in helping should contact Thornton Jordan, an Historian at the park, at 294-5175.

Congratulations to Marc Cimolino who recently completed his check list and was admitted to voting membership. A welcome to John Crossman, one of our friendly rangers, who joined our society. A welcome also to David Gambee, our newest associate member.

Now that we are providing quality nature books to Docents at a discount, some of you may want to use your extra dollars to enhance your library. How about a book-a-month?

Don't forget our four-part check-in procedure:

- 1 - Check the mailbox
- 2 - Check off your name on the schedule
- 3 - Check the bulletin board
- 4 - Wear your badge

#### Not So Miscellaneous

Piper Lindsey - How about this gal! Piper recently finished her Docent training--congratulations. During her training period, she wrote a fine essay on the Gray Whale which will be used as an interpretative brochure--hopefully by January 1978. Piper was asked to be a part of the Y.C.C. training group this summer, but bowed out in favor of a newly opened position at T.P. as a Park Aide. Bet her Docent training helped her to land that coveted post! Again congratulations, Piper!!

Marcie Thorner wishes to remind readers about the Del Mar Recycling Center located at Jimmy Durante Blvd. and San Dieguito Road, Del Mar. Hours 10-2 on Saturday. The center pays 17¢ a pound for aluminum cans. Also "Water Saving Planing Ideas for Summer-Dry California" and "Instead of a Big Thirsty Lawn" are two pamphlets available free at the San Diego Ecology Center, courtesy of the San Diego County Water Authority. Send a stamped (due to weight, two 13¢ stamps must be placed on the envelop to obtain articles), self-addressed envelope to: Ecology Centre, 340 Kalmia Street, San Diego, CA 92101. The telephone at the center is 235-0066.

#### REPORT FROM THE LIBRARIAN - Grace Claire

Seventy-five dollars of the 1977 budget has been reserved for the library. I began to spend it immediately, adding two reference books (not for circulation) to the Docent collection. They were purchased from our special stock, so we will get a percentage back.

The books, which are in the group on the ledge next to the coffee pot, are:

<u>Birds of North America</u> - Robbins, et. al.	\$4.20
<u>Field Guide to Pacific State Wildflowers,</u> Niehaus and Ripper	9.29

We now can return from a tour and check through the books to ascertain whether or not the bird we saw was a hawk or a hummingbird--or just a winged seedling looking for a place to settle.

Other references we need are in anthropology, sea life, and the other vegetation not covered in the above book. I would appreciate your suggestions in these classifications.

A CLOSER LOOK AT A LOVEY DOVE 5-77

In the midst of the nesting season, the benevolent mourning, Mourning Dove, family Columbidae, lavishly distributed in our midst is certainly worthy of some note. This smaller member of the pigeon family enjoys a more pleasing reputation, perhaps due to its dove nomen alone, and is unequivocally a "morning person!"

Unpretentious in its soft colors, the Mourning Dove is no mason like its avian amigos, the robin and the swallow. Its flimsy stick nest is placed at various heights in trees and not infrequently on the ground. As my daughter and I took note last May, incubation may begin before the nest is finished; the unoccupied bird bringing additional material and passing it to the sitting bird, male or female, to be used in completing the simple structure. Our particular pair appeared to ooze over the nest sides and looked more in a hurry than comfortable. Actually the nest is quite secure. This one, in particular, was built on the apex of three adjoining branches which formed a rather fine platform.

The adult doves are seed eaters while the two nestlings are milk drinkers for the entire fifteen days before becoming fledglings. Both parents have a supply of "pigeon milk," which is secreted by the enlarged crop and regurgitated into the mouth, from which the young birds suck it out by inserting the bill into the mouth of the old bird, crosswise near the base.

Doves drink water in a manner peculiar to themselves. The bill is inserted in the water up to the nostrils and the liquid is drawn up steadily without removing the bill - staw fashion! All other birds raise the head between sips and allow the water to run down the throat.

Unlike its similar cousin, the now totally absent Passenger Pigeon, the Mourning Doves wide distribution and our, hopefully, learned lesson, insure it a constant place in our gardens. AR.

V.I.P. STEVE CALDER REPRESENTS T. P. FOR "EARTH DAY 77" - by Steve Calder

Dave Gambee is one of our new Docents from UCSD. At our last meeting in April, he asked if it would be possible for someone to represent Torrey Pines at UCSD for Earth Day 1977. He was part of the staff responsible for organizing "Earth Day" and thought that we should be represented.

I really didn't know what "Earth Day" was all about, but thought it would be a good opportunity to reach some of our nearby neighbors to the south and drum up a little business for the reserve and the Docent Society. As it turned out, things worked out quite well. Dave managed to transport the large photo display of Torrey Pines to the campus for me and I arrived with pamphlets and literature.

There were many booths set up in the pavillion next to the water fountain. Some featured solar energy, others were manned by groups organized to save the whales, save the seals or save the "pines."

I talked to a lot of people, students, as well as instructors who were familiar with Torrey Pines. Most of them told me that they biked into the reserve quite frequently and enjoyed the scenery but they were either not aware of or did not take advantage of the guided tours. There was a great deal of interested expressed in our program by a few of the visitors and, hopefully, we will see some of them at our future meetings.

By late afternoon, the crowds began to dissipate, so I packed up my display board, pamphlets, and literature and silently stole away. All in all, it was a fun day on campus and something we should attempt to do in the future.

#### MAY - JUNE CALENDAR

- May 7-22 Annual Wildflower show. Julian Community Hall, 9:30-5:30. Will help you identify wildflowers and weeds.
- May 13-15 Free Open House courtesy of Helen Chamlee of the Museum of Natural History. See her drought resistant garden of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers. 5175-68 Street in State College area. 10:00-5:30.
- May 19-June 9. Museum Land Bird Course. \$15 for members; \$20 to others.
- May 20-June 10. Same course. Thursdays, 6:30-8:30; Fridays 10 to 12 A.M.
- May 21 Torrey Pines Nature Walk on New Peggy Fleming Teaching Trail in the Extension. \$3; need reservations, call 232-3821.
- June 18-19 Museum films. Free with \$1 admission. 1:30-3:00, 40 min. Giant Constrictors and What is a Reptile?
- June 25-26 The Loons Necklace Indian Legend and Acorn: staple food of the California Indian. Explains methods of preparing.
- June 18. Soil Study in Torrey Pines area. Field trip. Cost to be announced.
- June 25. Day-long trip to Lake Hodges to study insects. Cost to be announced.
- July 9 Botany walk with Helen Chamlee. Another is series of walks in our parks. Cabrillo National Monument. Cost to be announced.
- Sept 10-Nov 12 - Training classes for Florida Canyoneers. Applications taken June 1 to August.

#### PLANT SALES

- May 28-29 S.S. Botanical Garden Fdn. Patio A, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park 11-4
- May 14&22 South Coast Botanic Garden Fiesta de Flores. 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, ½ mile south of Pacific Coast Hwy. 10-5 P.M., Palos Verdes Peninsula.
- May 21-22 L.A. State & County Arboretum Spring Extravaganza. 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, just off Foothill Freeway. 9-4:30 Extra parking Santa Anita Racetrack
- May 14 The last KNOW YOUR SILVERWOOD SATURDAY of this year devoted to the study of flowering plants. Meet at 9:00 in the parking lot. Go east on Hwy 8 to El Cajon. Take #67 Lakeside off ramp. Follow 67 to Maplevue Avenue east one block to Ashwood St. which becomes Wildcat Canyon Rd. Go five miles past high school. Beyond top of grade watch for yellow mailbox.